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James W. Paul, Reg. No. 29,967

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

DAVID A. FERRERA

Serial No.

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: VARIABLE STIFFNESS COIL FOR
VASOOCCLUSIVE DEVICES

Prior Examiner: Gary Jackson

Prior Group Art Unit: 3731

Client ID/Matter No. MICRU:66180

Date: November 10, 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Continuation Application being filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b), based upon Serial No. 09/991,021 filed November 15, 2001, which is a divisional of Serial No. 09/211,783, filed December 15, 1998, now Patent No. 6,383,204.

Entry of the following amendments prior to examination of the application is respectfully requested.